

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 remain in this application.

No new matter has been added.

In response to the Office Action of September 20, 2007, Applicant requests re-examination and reconsideration of this application for patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 132.

Rejection under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jensen (4,519,657) in view of Greene (6,284,336).

The Examiner alleges that Jensen discloses a deformation resistant power pedestal comprising a hollow rectangular post, as shown in Fig. 16, which has load bearing walls, identified as (65), defining exterior and interior surfaces. The pedestal also has first and second open ends (proximate 81 and 62 respectively), a reinforcing cap (79) constructed for insertion within the first open end (proximate 81). The cap engages the interior surface of the post to prevent movement of the exterior surface, and retention means (proximate 81) arranged for retaining the cap within the post. Jensen discloses that the body (65) may be made of polyester or fiberglass resin (Col. 3, lines 57-63), but it does not disclose the body is polyester cloth with fiberglass resin. The Examiner

further alleges that Greene discloses a post made of polyester cloth with fiberglass resin (Col. 3, lines 28-35).

The Examiner then concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the post in Jensen in the manner of Greene because while Jensen discloses the body may be made of polyester or fiberglass resin, a polyester cloth would aid in ease of production of manufacturing the pedestal by aiding the maintaining of its shape and the fiberglass resin would be an obvious bonding agent for the cloth.

The Examiner also admits that Jensen does not disclose the load bearing limitation. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art as a matter of design choice to design the post of Jensen to hold 18 times the weight of the assembly in order to function properly without failure and the prior art is capable of being designed to met these limitations.

Regarding claim 2, the Examiner alleges that cap 79 of Jensen is equivalent to the cap of the present invention.

Regarding Claim 4, the Examiner alleges that the cover 56 of Jensen is equivalent to the mounting surface of the present invention.

Regarding claim 5, the Examiner alleges that Greene teaches the use of an additive to provide resistance to ultraviolet

radiation and refers to column 3, lines 30-34 for the teaching.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's determination that the claimed subject matter is obvious.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness three basic criteria must be met (MPEP 2142). First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

While Jensen does disclose a hollow pedestal assembly, the body of which is formed from of polyester or fiberglass resin it does not teach the body being formed of a polyester cloth veiled fiberglass reinforced resin as claimed.

The Greene reference does teach providing a veil of polyester cloth on a fiberglass resin pipe, however, the interior of the pipe must be completely filled with a mixture of stone, sand water and Portland-type cement, as illustrated in Figs. 1-3. The pipe obtains its strength from the core 12 as explained at column 2, lines 45-56. Claim 1 of the present invention recite *inter alia* "...a hollow rectangular post formed of a polyester cloth veiled fiberglass reinforced resin...". If the power pedestal of Jensen were modified

by Greene, as proposed by the Examiner, the polyester body 1 of Jensen would be replaced by a fiberglass reinforced resin pipe veiled with a polyester cloth. This structure alone is not strong enough to withstand normal use and must be provided with a solid core, as noted in column 2, lines 57-64 of Greene. Therefore, the hollow interior of Jensen, as modified by Greene, would have to include a solid core. This would preclude the placement of the circuit breakers 7, power outlets 8 and meters 14 in the interior of the service unit or power pole of Jensen. Thus, there would not be a reasonable expectation of success of the modification of Jensen by Greene, as proposed by the Examiner, necessary to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Further, the modification of Jensen by Greene would not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations, specifically the hollow rectangular post of claim 1.

The Examiner further admits that neither Jensen nor Greene teach construction of a pedestal with the claimed weight bearing limitation of "...said load bearing walls are maintained in said spaced apart position subsequent to mounting thereon of one or more power boxes or the like having a weight up to 18 times the weight of said power pedestal assembly." He only alleges that it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to design the post of Jensen to hold 18 times the weight of the

assembly in order properly and the prior art is capable of being designed to meet these limitations. However, the Examiner offers no evidence to support this statement. There are no teachings in Jensen or Greene which indicate the strength of the service unit or pole and the weight of the elements attached thereto. Therefore, how can a person skilled in the art design a deformation resistant power pedestal which meet the load bearing limitations claimed in claim 1? If the Examiner continues to allege this conclusion of obviousness, then he is requested to provide evidence to support this conclusion.

The rejections of claims 2, 4 and 5 are improper for the same reasons, since they depend from claim 1.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jensen in view of Greene and further in view of Zemon (U.S. 5,603,389).

The Examiner alleges that Jensen in view of Greene disclose the claimed invention except for a plurality of fasteners to fasten the cap. Although the fasteners 46 of Zemon do not fastening a cap to spaced apart load bearing walls, as recited in claim 3, the fastening means 42 secures cap 20 to spaced apart walls 16. However, Zemon fails to supply the deficiencies in the proposed combination of Jensen and Greene, note above. As

a result Jensen, Greene and Zemon when taken together do not teach or disclose all the claim limitations required to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jensen in view of Greene and further in view of Fawley (U.S. Publication 2002/0095905).

The Examiner alleges that Jensen in view of Greene disclose the invention as claimed except for the polyester resin of Greene being an isophthalic polyester resin. He then states that Fawley discloses a shaft made of an isophthalic polyester resin. Finally, the Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to use the isophthalic resin of Fawley in place of the polyester resin because the polyester resin of Greene is inclusive of the isophthalic polyester resin of Fawley.

Claim 6 recites an isophthalic polyester resin containing about 56.5% to about 61% glass by weight. The isophthalic polyester resin of Fawley contains 70% glass by weight (para. 0039). The Examiner refers to section 2173.05(b) of the M.P.E.P. to support his conclusion that the glass content of Fawley is equivalent to the claimed glass content. However he offers no support or evidence to justify the difference of 13.5% between Fawley and claim 6. Therefore, Fawley does not teach or disclose

all the claim limitations required to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Fawley also fails to supply the deficiencies in the proposed combination of Jensen and Greene, note above. As a result Jensen, Greene and Fawley when taken together do not teach or disclose all the claim limitations required to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jensen in view of Greene and Jordan.

The Examiner alleges that Jensen and Greene together disclose a process for providing a pedestal assembly as claimed, as stated in the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 5, except for placing the placing the pedestal in the ground.

The Examiner relies on Jordan to teach placing a post, which has a frangible base and an extension, in the ground. He also states that Jensen does have a frangible base. He concludes that it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to use the frangible mechanism in Jordan with the post in Jensen to anchor the system better with the ground and one of ordinary skill in the art would implant the pedestal in the ground at the depth range as claimed in order for the pedestal to remain upright.

If Jensen were modified, as suggested by the Examiner, an extension, in the form of a separate element, would be provided on the bottom of the hollow body 1 and the extension would be buried in the ground. The pedestal assembly would remain above ground. However, claim 7 recites that the pedestal assembly is implanted "... within the ground to a depth of between about 30" to 36"..." . This complies with the Florida Building Code 2001 load requirements. If the pedestal assembly of Jensen were modified, as suggested by the Examiner, it would not be capable of meeting this requirement. Therefore, Jordan does not teach or disclose all the claim limitations required to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Jordan also fails to supply the deficiencies in the proposed combination of Jensen and Greene, note above. As a result Jensen, Greene and Jordan when taken together do not teach or disclose all the claim limitations required to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

In addition, the Patent and Trademark Office recently issued U.S. Patent No. 7,314,212 which was also invented by the inventor of the present application and claims a similar structure. Accordingly, the claims of the present application should be patentable.

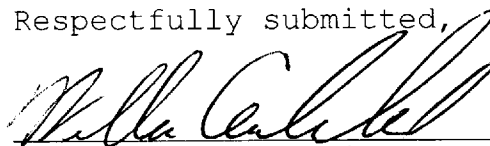
In light of all of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness and further contend that a person of ordinary skill in the art, having the references Jensen, Greene, Zemon, Fawley and Jordan in front of him or her would not have the information and motivation necessary to arrive at Applicants' invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed deformation resistant power pedestal assembly distinguishes over the prior art and respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) now be withdrawn.

SUMMARY

In light of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner will now find the claims of the application allowable. Favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously requested. Should there be any remaining issues which can be resolved via an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned in order to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in any fees due with the filing of this paper or credit any overpayment in any fees paid on the filing to Deposit Account No. 13-0439.

Authorized signature,



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